

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 10, please replace the first full paragraph with the following new paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 2, therein is illustrated a monotube optical fiber cable as generally indicated by the numeral 100 incorporating the present invention. This cable structure 100 has a single large, buffer tube 10 made from a polyolefin material and housing the optical unit 40. The inner and outer gel layers 30 and 20 are interposed between the buffer tube 10 and the optical unit 40. Radial strength yarns 16 made of either aramid, polyethylene, polyester or fiberglass materials are contra-helically stranded around the buffer tube 10 and impregnated with filling compound such as a petroleum based hot melt filling compound. Corrugated steel armor 18 may be applied over the radial strength yarns 16 and the corrugated steel armor ~~20~~ 18 is flooded with a water blockable flooding compound such as petroleum based hot melt filling compound manufactured by Witco Corporation, New York, N.Y. or Amoco Chemical Company, Chicago, or a petroleum based flooding compound. Alternatively, water swellable yarns or tapes may be used for water blocking. A high strength rip cord 12 is applied under the armor ~~12~~ 18 to aid with sheath removal. Two strength members 22 are located 180 degrees apart on the outside of the corrugated armor 18. The strength members 22 may be fabricated from steel or fiber reinforced plastics. An outer jacket 24 encapsulates the strength members 22 and corrugated armor 18 to complete the structure. The outer jacket 24, may be made from a polyolefin material. The water blockable flooding compound (not shown) is disposed between the corrugated armor 18 and the

outer jacket 24. Water swellable yarns or tapes may be used to replace the flooding compound, if desired.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 10 and 11 with the following new paragraph:

The present invention can also be applied to loose tube optical fiber cables having single or multi-layer buffer tubes. FIG. 3 illustrates a reversing helically wound loose tube optical fiber cable ~~202~~ 102. The cable 102 shown in FIG. ~~2~~ 3 generally comprises a central strength member 104 surrounded by a plurality buffer tubes 10 ~~and a filler rod 114~~. Each of the buffer tubes 10 house the inner and outer gel layers (not shown) and optical unit (not shown) such as loose optical fibers or optical fiber ribbons. The cable 102 further comprises armoring 118, and a protective outer jacket 120, among other things. The buffer tubes 10 ~~and the filler rod 114~~, for example, are fabricated from polyolefin material.